

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed that Articles of Impeachment I and III as specified in H. Res. 611, Impeaching William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States for high crimes and misdemeanors, be exhibited to the United States Senate.

Representatives Hyde, Sensenbrenner, McCollum, Gekas, Canady, Buyer, Bryant, Chabot, Barr, Hutchinson, Cannon, Rogan, and Graham were appointed managers to conduct the impeachment trial against the President of the United States pursuant to H. Res. 614.

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session today. It is next scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 6, 1999 at 12 noon.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 1 resolution, H. Res. 614, was introduced. Page H12047

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative LaHood to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. Page H11967

Journal: Agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by ye and nay vote of 277 yeas to 125 nays, Roll No. 541. Pages H11967-68

Impeaching William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States: The House completed debate on H. Res. 611, Impeaching William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors, and adopted Articles I and III. Pages H11968-H12042

Article I: By a ye and nay vote of 228 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 543, the House adopted Article I, of H. Res. 611: In his conduct while President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend

the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has willfully corrupted and manipulated the judicial process of the United States for his personal gain and exoneration, impeding the administration of justice, in that: On August 17, 1998, William Jefferson Clinton swore to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth before a Federal grand jury of the United States. Contrary to that oath, William Jefferson Clinton willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony to the grand jury concerning one or more of the following: (1) the nature and details of his relationship with a subordinate Government employee; (2) prior perjurious, false and misleading testimony he gave in a Federal civil rights action brought against him; (3) prior false and misleading statements he allowed his attorney to make to a Federal judge in that civil rights action; and (4) his corrupt efforts to influence the testimony of witnesses and to impede the discovery of evidence in that civil rights action. In doing this, William Jefferson Clinton has undermined the integrity of his office, has brought disrepute on the Presidency, has betrayed his trust as President, and has acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice, to the

manifest injury of the people of the United States. Wherefore, William Jefferson Clinton, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Pages H12040–41

Article II: By a ye and nay vote of 205 yeas to 229 nays, Roll No. 544, the House failed to adopt Article II: In his conduct while President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has willfully corrupted and manipulated the judicial process of the United States for his personal gain and exoneration, impeding the administration of justice, in that: (1) On December 23, 1997, William Jefferson Clinton, in sworn answers to written questions asked as part of a Federal civil rights action brought against him, willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony in response to questions deemed relevant by a Federal judge concerning conduct and proposed conduct with subordinate employees. (2) On January 17, 1998, William Jefferson Clinton swore under oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in a deposition given as part of a Federal civil rights action brought against him. Contrary to that oath, William Jefferson Clinton willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony in response to questions deemed relevant by a Federal judge concerning the nature and details of his relationship with a subordinate Government employee, his knowledge of that employee's involvement and participation in the civil rights action brought against him, and his corrupt efforts to influence the testimony of that employee. In all of this, William Jefferson Clinton has undermined the integrity of his office, has brought disrepute on the Presidency, has betrayed his trust as President, and has acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States. Wherefore, William Jefferson Clinton, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Page H12041

Article III: By a ye and nay vote of 221 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 545, the House adopted Article III: In his conduct while President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has prevented, obstructed, and impeded the administration of justice, and has to that end engaged personally, and through his subor-

dinates and agents, in a course of conduct or scheme designed to delay, impede, cover up, and conceal the existence of evidence and testimony related to a Federal civil rights action brought against him in a duly instituted judicial proceeding. The means used to implement this course of conduct or scheme included one or more of the following acts: (1) On or about December 17, 1997, William Jefferson Clinton corruptly encouraged a witness in a Federal civil rights action brought against him to execute a sworn affidavit in that proceeding that he knew to be perjurious, false and misleading. (2) On or about December 17, 1997, William Jefferson Clinton corruptly encouraged a witness in a Federal civil rights action brought against him to give perjurious, false and misleading testimony if and when called to testify personally in that proceeding. (3) On or about December 28, 1997, William Jefferson Clinton corruptly engaged in, encouraged, or supported a scheme to conceal evidence that had been subpoenaed in a Federal civil rights action brought against him. (4) Beginning on or about December 7, 1997, and continuing through and including January 14, 1998, William Jefferson Clinton intensified and succeeded in an effort to secure job assistance to a witness in a Federal civil rights action brought against him in order to corruptly prevent the truthful testimony of that witness in that proceeding at a time when the truthful testimony of that witness would have been harmful to him. (5) On January 17, 1998, at his deposition in a Federal civil rights action brought against him, William Jefferson Clinton corruptly allowed his attorney to make false and misleading statements to a Federal judge characterizing an affidavit, in order to prevent questioning deemed relevant by the judge. Such false and misleading statements were subsequently acknowledged by his attorney in a communication to that judge. (6) On or about January 18 and January 20–21, 1998, William Jefferson Clinton related a false and misleading account of events relevant to a Federal civil rights action brought against him to a potential witness in that proceeding, in order to corruptly influence the testimony of that witness. (7) On or about January 21, 23 and 26, 1998, William Jefferson Clinton made false and misleading statements to potential witnesses in a Federal grand jury proceeding in order to corruptly influence the testimony of those witnesses. The false and misleading statements made by William Jefferson Clinton were repeated by the witnesses to the grand jury, causing the grand jury to receive false and misleading information. In all of this, William Jefferson Clinton has undermined the integrity of his office, has brought disrepute on the Presidency, has betrayed his trust as President, and has acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States. Wherefore, William Jefferson Clinton, by such conduct, warrants impeachment

and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Pages H12041–42

Article IV: By a yea and nay vote of 148 ayes to 285 nays, Roll No. 546, the House failed to adopt Article IV: Using the powers and influence of the office of President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in disregard of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has engaged in conduct that resulted in misuse and abuse of his high office, impaired the due and proper administration of justice and the conduct of lawful inquiries, and contravened the authority of the legislative branch and the truth seeking purpose of a coordinate investigative proceeding, in that, as President, William Jefferson Clinton refused and failed to respond to certain written requests for admission and willfully made perjurious, false and misleading sworn statements in response to certain written requests for admission propounded to him as part of the impeachment inquiry authorized by the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States. William Jefferson Clinton, in refusing and failing to respond and in making perjurious, false and misleading statements, assumed to himself functions and judgments necessary to the exercise of the sole power of impeachment vested by the Constitution in the House of Representatives and exhibited contempt for the inquiry. In doing this, William Jefferson Clinton has undermined the integrity of his office, has brought disrepute on the President, has betrayed his trust as President, and has acted in a manner subversive of the rule of law and justice, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States. Wherefore, William Jefferson Clinton, by such conduct warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Page H12042

Earlier, Representative Solomon raised a point of order against the Boucher motion to recommit the resolution to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report it back forthwith to the House with an amendment to strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following: That it is the sense

of the House that (1) on January 20, 1993, William Jefferson Clinton took the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States faithfully to execute the office of President; implicit in that oath is the obligation that the President set an example of high moral standards and conduct himself in a manner that fosters respect for the truth; and William Jefferson Clinton, has egregiously failed in this obligation, and through his actions violated the trust of the American people, lessened their esteem for the office of President, and dishonored the office which they have entrusted to him; (2)(A) William Jefferson Clinton made false statements concerning his reprehensible conduct with a subordinate; (B) William Jefferson Clinton wrongly took steps to delay discovery of the truth; and (C) inasmuch as no person is above the law, William Jefferson Clinton remains subject to criminal and civil penalties; and (3) William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, by his conduct has brought upon himself, and fully deserves, the censure and condemnation of the American people and this House.

Pages H12031–39

Representative Solomon stated that the motion to recommit with instructions was not germane to H. Res. 611. The Chair sustained the point of order. Representative Gephardt appealed the ruling of the Chair. Subsequently, the House agreed to the Arney motion to table the appeal by a yea and nay vote of 230 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 542.

Pages H12032–39

Managers for the Impeachment Trial of William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States: By a yea and nay vote of 228 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 547, the House agreed to H. Res. 614, appointing and authorizing managers for the impeachment trial of William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States.

Page H12042–43

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven yea and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on page H11967–68, H12039, H12040, H12041, H12041–42, H12042, and H12043. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9:00 a.m. and in accordance with H. Con. Res. 353 adjourned sine die at 2:36 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Wednesday, January 6

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Wednesday, January 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Convening the first session of the 106th Congress.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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